

CROSSVILLE CHRONICLE.

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CROSSVILLE CHRONICLE

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BUSINESS ASSOCIA. ACTIVE

Movement on Foot to Repair M.-to-B.
Highway; Dorton, Crab Orchard,
Pomona, P. Hill Active.

At the regular meeting, Monday night, of the Cumberland County Business Association much interest was manifested in the question of the upkeep of our roads after being built. A committee has been appointed, consisting of Chas. Comstock, Dr. V. L. Lewis and James Smith, to draft such a measure as in their judgement should be enacted into a law at the coming sitting of the legislature and report same to the next regular meeting of the Association.

It was also decided to take such steps as necessary to repair the Memphis-to-Bristol highway between Crossville and Crab Orchard. The plan is to have a working by the citizens of Crossville, Dorton and Crab Orchard and all persons along or near the road who will be willing to lend free aid. The plan is to have autos to distribute the workers along the line at the various points where work is needed, lunch being taken sufficient to feed all who may wish to assist in the work. Tools will also be provided and the feeling is that the road can be put in good shape in one day. It is expected that Crossville will turn out more than 50 strong, with tools and baskets of lunch ample to supply all who go or may join the workers along the line. Friday, the 25th of this month, seems likely to be the day for the working. Definite announcement will be made in the Chronicle next week.

Both Dorton and Crab Orchard are heartily in accord with the move and will be on the job with a good force of men, tools and plenty of good things to eat.

While this will be the first effort of this kind there will be others on other roads of the county. Pleasant Hill and Pomona are actively arranging for a similar working on the west end of the Memphis-to-Bristol highway. Crossville citizens will lend a hand in that work with the same willingness as the Crab Orchard end. Just when the work will be taken up on the west end of the road has not as yet been decided.

The Pleasant Hill people are ready to put in several teams and men to assist with construction work for several days, so soon as the Highway Commissioners definitely locate the line and put a crew to work. The Commission will gladly accept all such work tendered and they are now arranging to put a crew on construction work between Pomona and Pleasant Hill in a short time.

"FREE SALE."

Did you ever hear of such a thing as a "Free Sale"? It is unusual to say the least and requires some explaining.

Reed & Burnett have decided to put on a "Free Sale" at their Crab Orchard store September 2. It is this way: In all stores there is from time to time an accumulation of articles that are good but for some reason are very slow sale.

Instead of following the old custom of putting these articles on a Bargain Counter or selling at auction for what they will bring, Reed & Burnett have decided to wrap up these goods in bundles and pitch them into the crowd that congregates at the Free Sale and the person who catches the bundle will become the owner of what ever is in the bundle.

In other words they will sell these odds and ends in the way the little boy sold his cat. A certain boy had more cats than he wanted. One day he came running to his father and said: "O, Papa, I have sold one of my cats." The father replied: "Well, son, that is good, what did you get for it?" The boy replied, "O, nothing." That is the way Reed & Burnett will conduct their Free Sale. Sell the things for nothing.

FOR SALE—Two yellow pine doors 3x7 feet, in good condition. Also one child's white iron bed, with let-down sides; in good condition. Inquire at the Bishop residence.

GREAT PROSPERITY; GREAT COUNTRY.

Marvelous Opportunities of This Plateau Region not Understood
by Our Home People or
Homeseekers.

MANY THOUSAND ACRES OF FREE PASTURE FOR CATTLE AND
SHEEP AND HOGS FATTEN ON ABUNDANT MAST.

Splendid Crops Grown on Land That Sells for
\$10 an Acre and Up. \$200,000 Being
Expended for Graded Roads.
Two Great Highways.

Never before has such universal prosperity prevailed with the people of Cumberland county as at this time. There are several reasons for this favorable condition.

Lumber and cross ties are bringing good prices, sheep are bringing a good price—\$6.00 a head and up—cattle promise to bring good prices and as there is a good prospect for an acorn crop hogs are sure to fatten well and go on the market in good shape this fall and winter. Coupled with this the crop outlook is unusually good and our farmers are more encouraged than ever before and are doing more and better farming than ever before. It is no exaggeration to say that our farmers have made more real progress along the lines of scientific farming in the past five years than for any ten years previously. They are aware of this and are making greater effort to enlarge and improve their farms than ever before.

GREAT ADVANTAGES.

To us, who have lived here for a period of years there is one problem that is more perplexing and unexplainable than all others.

Why is it, that in this section, with its splendid climate, where there are thousands of acres of free range for live stock, where good land can be bought for \$10 an acre and up, where many hundred head of hogs fatten in the woods each year at a cost of less than a dollar a head to the owners, where sheep live the year around with little attention and almost no feed, where mosquitoes are almost unknown, the temperature in the summer rarely ever reaches ninety and in the winter seldom goes to zero and where the lay of the land is so favorable that all that is necessary to produce prairie farms, so far as surface conditions go—is to remove the stumps, that we have a population of only 9,000 people and not over one acre in thirty under cultivation.

No one here pretends that this soil is equal to the black prairie lands of the west in point of fertility, but it is superior to it in some respects. With good farming methods, good crops can be grown from the start and the land constantly increased in fertility.

BIG CROPS.

As an indication of what can be done we call attention to the following crops that have been grown here under favorable conditions: On the farm of J. S. Cline, Crab Orchard, for two successive years the second prize was won by his sons in the East Tennessee Corn Club on upland. The first year the boy produced 99 bushels; the second year he grew 132 bushels and last year Mr. Cline grew 150 bushels on one acre. Many farmers over the county are producing 40 to 50 bushels of corn each year. Potatoes have been grown at

the rate of 375 bushels to the acre; 32 bushels of rye on an acre; 25 bushels soy beans on an acre; nearly seven tons forage on an acre; four tons clover on an acre.

ABUNDANT RAINFALL.

The rainfall is well distributed throughout the year and amounts to 50 to 60 inches. Because of this condition the wild range here is far superior to the range of the west, so far as the ranging period is concerned. The range is so abundant that there is feed for ten head of stock where there is one to eat it and such a thing as overstocking the range is unknown here.

GOOD HOG RANGE.

Owing to this being a timbered section, there is an abundant crop of acorns almost every year and hundreds of hogs fatten for the market with little or no cash outlay to the owners. More than \$75,000 was realized from fat hogs in this county the past year, and they did not cost the owners one dollar a head. At this time there are more hogs in the woods than ever before and an abundant crop of acorns is now assured for this year.

SHEEP COST LITTLE.

Sheep live in the woods the year around and require no feed except in the most severe weather. The sheep market has been so good for the past few years that our farmers are rapidly increasing their flocks, and sheep raising is one of the leading industries of the county.

CATTLE INDUSTRY.

Raising cattle is the leading industry of this section, because of the abundance of free range and the ease with which forage and silage can be produced for winter feeding.

DIVERSIFIED CROPS.

Nowhere in the United States can this section be exceeded in diversity and quality of crops. Vegetables of all kinds grow in profusion and are of the highest quality. The potatoes produced here are equal to the best grown anywhere. Their excellence has become so universally known throughout the state that our merchants are shipping in car lots and this year promises to see larger shipments than ever before. Fruits of all kinds grow well here, but no one has attempted to produce them on an extensive scale under modern methods.

LARGE AREA, SPARSE POPULATION.

Cumberland county has an area of approximately 800 square miles or over 50,000 acres, with a population of close to 9,000 people. In spite of this large acreage and the very low price of land—\$10 an acre and up—not more than one acre in thirty is in actual cultivation. With so small a population it is

easy to see that there is abundant room for persons who are seeking a place to get a cheap home in a healthful and pleasant climate. Our elevation—approximately 2,000 feet above sea level—gives us a "northern climate in a southern land."

LIVE STOCK.

A few weeks ago this publication sent a blank to nearly 200 farmers of the county requesting them to fill it in to the end that we might be able to get a fair estimate of the amount of money realized within the past year from cattle, sheep and hogs and the number of each on hand. After going over these reports carefully we have decided that a conservative estimate would be about as follows: Sold: Cattle, \$75,000 to \$90,000; Sheep, \$25,000; Hogs, \$75,000. Now on hand: Cattle, 8,000 head, with one-third for sale; sheep, 6,000, 1,000 were sold the past week; hogs, 10,000 head. Not more than one-half of our people are engaged in farming, the others being engaged in lumbering and other occupations.

OUR ROADS.

One of the greatest drawbacks that this section has been laboring under is the lack of good roads. This problem is being solved at this time. A few years ago \$40,000 in bonds were sold to construct the 40 miles of the Memphis-to-Bristol highway, which passes through this county from west to east. The Memphis-to-Bristol highway is a part of the great Trans-Continental Highway that extends from New York City to San Diego, California.

About a year ago \$200,000 more in road bonds were sold for building roads in the county. Perhaps the most important line to be built from this fund is the Dixie Short Route, which extends from Chicago to Miami, Fla. This road is now under construction. These two lines give us an outlet to the north, south, east and west to automobile roads either built or now under construction.

Owing to the gently undulating and level surface of this plateau region there now seems every assurance that we will get at least one mile of good graded roads for each \$1,000 of the \$200,000 bond issue. This fund is in the hands of a commission of three competent men in whom the people have the utmost confidence, which is ample assurance that the fund will be wisely and honestly expended.

COUNTY SEAT.

Crossville, the county seat, is situated nearly in the center of the county, with a population of about 900 people, five churches, good high school, on the line of the Tennessee Central railroad, 131 miles east of Nashville and 85 miles west of Knoxville. Also at the junction of the Dixie Short Route and Memphis-to-Bristol highways.

UNION PICNIC.

A union picnic of all the Sunday schools of the town will be given August 24. Committee on arrangements has been appointed by the different Sunday schools. This committee met at the office of Dorton & Burnett last week and decided to have the picnic at Greens Ford on Obed River this year. A special committee was appointed to secure conveyances for the picnickers and provision will be made for every one who wants to go.

Greens Ford is only about three and one half miles from Crossville and the new grade can be travelled practically all the way.

The committee requests that the Sunday schools and friends of the Sunday schools turn out in full force and make this an enjoyable occasion. Everybody is requested to take well-filled baskets with good things to eat.

WAR SITUATION.

The continued pressure of the allies against the Teutons from all sides is pressing them back slowly but surely. In Austria the Russians are making more progress than on any other front. The Turks claim some victories over the Russians.

The fighting is terribly bloody and resistance of all troops engaged is unusually stubborn. On the whole the central powers are getting the worst of the fight.

WHY COVER CROPS.

Naked Land Loses Much of its Fertility,
But that is Not All.

There has been much talk about winter cover crops and while most farmers know some reasons for cover crops, we have never seen so full and complete a set of reasons as the following taken from the Progressive Farmer:

"1. Our summers are long, warm and moist which means that all vegetable or organic matter in the soil will decay rapidly and the plant foods thus set free will be leached away by the rains.

"2. Our rainfall is heavy, running from 45 to 70 inches a year. The greater the rainfall the greater the need for cover crops to prevent erosion and leaching.

"3. Our winters are open,—that is, the soils are not frozen or covered with snow, but are bare and exposed to the heavy rainfall of winter and early spring.

"4. The 'lay of the land,' most of it being rolling, and especially the nature or composition of most of our soils, cause them to dissolve or wash away much more readily than the soils of some other sections.

"5. We grow almost exclusively row crops, like corn, cotton, peanuts and tobacco, which being generally cultivated clean, often leave the land bare from early fall until the next spring. The area to meadow and grain crops is small. These by the sod and stubble which cover the land and fill the soil with fibrous roots protect it from washing, but we have only small areas devoted to such crops.

"6. Our soils are already poor from long cropping in row crops and exposure to climatic conditions which cause a loss of fertility from washing and leaching. The necessity for adding to our soil fertility is our necessity for cover crops.

"7. Owing to our warm winters, nitrogen is likely to become soluble at any time and may be leached from the soil; but the fact that this is true makes it possible to grow a cover crop, which may also be a legume or soil-improving crop, during the winter.

"8. The fact that we can grow two or more crops a year makes it more necessary that we grow cover crops. If the land was frozen during the winter there would be less soil loss of fertility and consequently less necessity for a cover crop.

"9. Our greatest agricultural asset is that we can grow a money or feed crop every year and between these grow a crop which will protect the soil during the winter and gather nitrogen from the air to increase the supply in the soil.

"10. This is our greatest agricultural asset and it constitutes our greatest need for cover crops. The fact that crops will grow during the late fall, winter and early spring makes it necessary that we grow them not only to add but to save fertility. Idle soils, like idle people, are apt to get worse instead of better."

INCREASING CORN YIELD

Crimson Clover Did the Trick for This
Alabama Man.

The following is taken from a letter written by W. H. Chambers, Haleyville, Ala., to the Progressive Farmer. It might pay you to try crimson clover for your corn next year. Now is the time to prepare the ground and sow it:

"In the fall of 1913, I sowed 15 pounds of crimson clover seed on one and one-half acres. I ordered my inoculation from the Government, as I had no dirt to use, and got a fine stand. It averaged about 20 inches high at the time I turned it, May 5, and I planted it to corn about May 15. It rained but very little till the corn had begun to tassle. Then it began raining and the corn turned black, and it averaged about two ears to the stalk; the yield was 40 bushels per acre. This land had been producing about 25 bushels per acre. Our county demonstrator said this was the first crimson clover that had been sowed in Winston County."